

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 91-47 (As Amended)

Introduced by Council Member Parrott

Legislative Day No. 91-23 Date August 13, 1991

**AN ACT** to add Article XXVIIA, Cable 15 ~~Advisory~~ Board, to Part 3, Authoritative Boards and Commissions, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to establish the Cable 15 ~~Advisory~~ Board; to establish the Board's membership and its members' qualifications and terms; to establish the Board's powers, duties, and responsibilities; and to repeal County Council Resolution No. 38-88; and generally relating to the Cable 15 ~~Advisory~~ Board.

By the Council, August 13, 1991

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled  
on: September 10, 1991  
at: 6:30 p.m.

By Order: Doris Paulsen, Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on September 10, 1991, and concluded on, September 10, 1991

Doris Paulsen, Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

1 WHEREAS, Cable 15 is a multi-use channel which functions as  
2 a community access channel, covers governmental meetings, special  
3 projects and activities in the county and provides a medium through  
4 which educational programming can be disseminated; and

5 WHEREAS, Through the efforts of the Cable 15 Advisory Board,  
6 Harford Community College and Comcast Cable, Cable 15 has become  
7 a viable entity; and

8 WHEREAS, The County Council wishes to formally establish the  
9 Cable 15 ~~Advisory~~ Board, since the Board was never established by  
10 law.

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council for Harford  
13 County, Maryland, That Article XXVIIA, Cable 15 ~~Advisory~~ Board, be,  
14 and it is hereby, added to Part 3, Authoritative Boards and  
15 Commissions, of Chapter 9, Boards, Commissions, Councils and  
16 Agencies, all of the Harford County Code, as amended, and all to  
17 read as follows:

18 Chapter 9. Boards, Commissions, Councils and Agencies.

19 Part 3. Authoritative Boards and Commissions.

20 ARTICLE XXVIIA. CABLE 15 ~~ADVISORY~~ BOARD.

21 SECTION 9-176.1. ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP.

22 A. THERE IS A CABLE 15 ~~ADVISORY~~ BOARD.

23 B. THE BOARD IS AN AGENCY OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

24 ~~B.~~ C. THE BOARD CONSISTS OF ~~12~~ 15 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE  
25 COUNTY COUNCIL:

26 ~~(1) A REPRESENTATIVE OF HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE;~~

27 ~~(2) A REPRESENTATIVE OF COMCAST CABLE COMPANY;~~

1           ~~(3) A REPRESENTATIVE OF CLEARVIEW CATV, INC.;~~  
2           ~~(4) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY;~~  
3           ~~(5) A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL, WHO IS AN EX~~  
4 ~~OFFICIO, VOTING MEMBER;~~  
5           ~~(6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION;~~  
6           ~~(7) TWO CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES;~~  
7           ~~(8) A REPRESENTATIVE OF ABERDEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE TOWN~~  
8 ~~COMMISSIONERS;~~  
9           ~~(9) A REPRESENTATIVE OF BEL AIR RECOMMENDED BY THE TOWN~~  
10 ~~COMMISSIONERS;~~  
11           ~~(10) A REPRESENTATIVE OF HAVRE DE GRACE RECOMMENDED BY~~  
12 ~~THE CITY COUNCIL; AND~~  
13           ~~(11) THE CABLE 15 OPERATIONS MANAGER, WHO IS AN EX~~  
14 ~~OFFICIO, NON-VOTING MEMBER.~~

15           ~~C. THE 2 CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE COUNTY RESIDENTS,~~  
16 ~~AND IT IS PREFERRED THAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCE IN MARKETING OR~~  
17 ~~PUBLIC RELATIONS.~~

18           (1) SEVEN CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES, 1 APPOINTED BY EACH  
19 COUNCIL MEMBER;

20           (2) A REPRESENTATIVE OF HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
21 RECOMMENDED BY THE PRESIDENT OF HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE;

22           (3) A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL;

23           (4) A CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDED BY THE COUNTY  
24 EXECUTIVE;

25           (5) A REPRESENTATIVE OF ABERDEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE  
26 TOWN COMMISSIONERS;

1           (6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF BEL AIR RECOMMENDED BY THE TOWN  
2 COMMISSIONERS;

3           (7) A REPRESENTATIVE OF HAVRE DE GRACE RECOMMENDED BY  
4 THE CITY COUNCIL;

5           (8) A REPRESENTATIVE OF COMCAST CABLEVISION; AND

6           (9) A REPRESENTATIVE OF CLEARVIEW CATV, INC.

7       D. THE BOARD MEMBERS MUST:

8           (1) BE COUNTY RESIDENTS;

9           (2) INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE, BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
10 COUNTY'S POPULATION WITH RESPECT TO RACE, GENDER, POLITICAL  
11 AFFILIATION, AND GEOGRAPHY; AND

12           (3) INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE, REPRESENT A BALANCE BETWEEN  
13 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CONSUMERS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH KNOWLEDGE AND  
14 EXPERIENCE RELEVANT TO CABLE TELEVISION.

15       ~~D. G. THE TERM OF A NON EX OFFICIO MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.~~

16       E. THE TERMS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER, THE 7 CITIZEN  
17 REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND THE  
18 REPRESENTATIVES OF COMCAST AND CLEARVIEW ARE COTERMINOUS WITH THE  
19 TERM OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

20       F. THE TERMS OF THE REMAINING MEMBERS ARE 4 YEARS AND ARE  
21 STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR THOSE MEMBERS ON  
22 JANUARY 1, 1992.

23       ~~E. H. G.~~ G. AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE  
24 UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

25       ~~F. I. H.~~ H. A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN:

26           (1) SERVES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A

1 SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES; AND

2 (2) IS ELIGIBLE FOR REAPPOINTMENT.

3 ~~G.~~ ~~J.~~ I. A VACANCY ON THE BOARD SHALL BE FILLED IN THE  
4 MANNER OF ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT.

5 SECTION 9-176.2. MEETINGS; QUORUM; ABSENCES.

6 A. THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT LEAST 6 TIMES A YEAR, AT THE  
7 TIMES AND PLACES IT DETERMINES.

8 B. ~~SIX~~ SEVEN VOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE A QUORUM.

9 C. UNLESS THE ABSENCES ARE EXPLAINED TO THE SATISFACTION OF  
10 THE BOARD, A MEMBER WITH UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FOR 3 OR MORE  
11 CONSECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS IS DEEMED TO HAVE RESIGNED, AND THE  
12 BOARD SHALL NOTIFY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE RESIGNATION. WITHIN  
13 60 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE NOTICE, THE COUNCIL SHALL  
14 APPOINT A REPLACEMENT FOR THE MEMBER.

15 SECTION 9-176.3. POWERS AND DUTIES.

16 A. THE BOARD SHALL:

17 (1) SUBMIT A REPORT OF ITS ACTIVITIES TO THE COUNTY  
18 COUNCIL BY MARCH 31 OF EACH YEAR;

19 (2) COORDINATE THE PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND GOVERNMENTAL  
20 ACCESS PROGRAMMING OF CABLE 15; ~~AND~~

21 (3) PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF ORGANIZATIONS AND  
22 INDIVIDUALS IN THE COUNTY IN CREATING PROGRAMMING THAT CONCERNS  
23 PEOPLE, EVENTS, AND ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE ~~COUNTY.~~ COUNTY;

24 (4) ENSURE THAT A FINANCIAL AUDIT OF CABLE 15 IS  
25 CONDUCTED ANNUALLY BY THE COUNTY AUDITOR;

26 (5) ENSURE THAT ALL REVENUE RECEIVED BY CABLE 15 IS

1 TURNED OVER TO THE COUNTY TREASURER TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR AND  
2 EXPENDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNTY BUDGETARY PROCEDURES;

3 (6) SELECT A CHAIRMAN FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS;

4 (7) CONSULT THE COUNTY COUNCIL ATTORNEY OR ANOTHER  
5 ATTORNEY DESIGNATED BY THE COUNCIL ATTORNEY FOR ANY LEGAL ADVICE  
6 IT REQUIRES;

7 (8) THROUGH THE CHAIRMAN, BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GENERAL  
8 SUPERVISION OF CABLE 15 EMPLOYEES;

9 (9) MEET WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL AT  
10 LEAST TWICE A YEAR TO DISCUSS THE JOB PERFORMANCE OF THE PRODUCER-  
11 MANAGER OF CABLE 15; AND

12 (10) CONDUCT JOINTLY WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE COUNTY  
13 COUNCIL THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE PRODUCER-MANAGER.

14 B. THE BOARD MAY:

15 (1) ACCEPT ANY GIFT, GRANT, OR APPROPRIATION FOR CABLE  
16 15 PURPOSES, ~~AND MAY OWN AND DISPOSE OF THE GIFT, GRANT, OR~~  
17 ~~APPROPRIATION,~~ PURPOSES;

18 (2) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS  
19 ARTICLE;

20 (3) ADOPT ~~BY LAWS~~ BYLAWS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF ITS  
21 BUSINESS;

22 (4) ADOPT GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO AND USE OF  
23 CABLE ~~15,~~ 15, INCLUDING REASONABLE FEES FOR ACCESS AND USE;

24 (5) SUBJECT TO THE COUNTY BUDGET, EMPLOY STAFF IN  
25 ~~ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 38 OF THIS CODE; AND~~

26 (6) TAKE ANY OTHER LAWFUL ACTION NECESSARY FOR THE

1 PROPER CONTROL, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF CABLE 15.

2 C. REGULATIONS, BYLAWS, AND GUIDELINES ADOPTED UNDER  
3 SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION ARE NOT EFFECTIVE UNTIL APPROVED BY  
4 THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

5 D. CHANGES IN THE PAY OR CLASSIFICATION OF CABLE 15  
6 EMPLOYEES PROPOSED BY THE BOARD SHALL NOT BE FORWARDED TO THE  
7 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.  
8 SECTION 9-176-4. EMPLOYEES.

9 CABLE 15 EMPLOYEES ARE COUNTY EMPLOYEES AND SHALL BE IN THE  
10 CLASSIFIED SERVICE ESTABLISHED UNDER CHAPTER 38 OF THIS CODE.

11 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That County Council  
12 Resolution No. 38-88 be, and it is hereby, repealed.

13 ~~Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted, That the initial members~~  
14 ~~of the Cable 15 Advisory Board are the members appointed in~~  
15 ~~accordance with County Council Resolution No. 38-88 and serving on~~  
16 ~~the Board on September 30, 1991.~~

17 Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted, That the terms of the  
18 initial members of the Cable 15 Board whose terms are not  
19 coterminous with the term of the County Council shall expire as  
20 follows:

21 (1) 1 member in 1993;

22 (2) 2 members in 1994; and

23 (3) 2 members in 1995.

24 Section 4. And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act shall take  
25 effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

26 EFFECTIVE: December 30, 1991

BY THE COUNCIL

BILL NO. 91-47 As Amended

Read the third time.

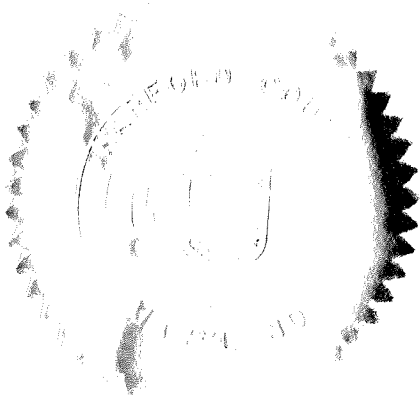
Passed: LSD 91-29 (October 8, 1991)

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive  
for her approval this 9th day of October,  
1991 at 3:00 o'clock P.M.



Doris Poulsen, Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Eileen M. Lehmann  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

Date October 29, 1991

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, (No. 91-47 As Amended), having been approved by  
the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on October  
29, 1991.

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 30, 1991